



San Diego City Attorney CASEY GWINN

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 17, 2003

CONTACT: Maria Velasquez, Press Secretary (619) 235-5725 (pager & voicemail)

Statement of City Attorney Casey Gwinn Vehicle License Fee

"We are working closely with the California League of Cities and with the City Attorneys of the ten largest cities in California in our effort to protect local taxpayers from the impact of the loss of the vehicle license fee revenue to local government. We are committed to supporting the Governor in his effort to protect revenue to local government. Governors Wilson, Davis, and Schwarzenegger all promised to protect cities and counties if the vehicle license fee was ever rescinded or declared illegal. The State Legislature as well has made that promise in the past. Now, the State has an obligation to meet its obligation to local government. If a lawsuit is necessary, I will recommend joining a lawsuit to protect vital City services for all San Diegans. In the absence of the so called "back fill," San Diego City and County will face massive financial impacts and a dramatic loss of public services. On behalf of local taxpayers, we are committed to protect those services in every way possible, including litigation, if necessary."